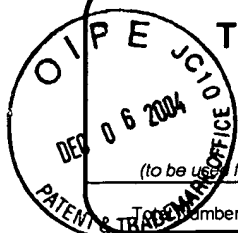


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(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)

Application Number	10/790,651
Filing Date	03/01/2004
First Named Inventor	James R. Zucherman
Art Unit	3731
Examiner Name	
Attorney Docket Number	KLYC-01056USE

ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)

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|---|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form
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<input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request
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Remarks

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT

Firm Name	Fliesler Meyer LLP	Customer No. 23910
Signature	<i>S. Bhattacharya</i>	
Printed name	Suvashis Bhattacharya	
Date	11/30/04	Reg. No. 46,554

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Initial Application

Inventor(s): James F. Zucherman et al.

Appln. No.: 10/790,651

Confirm. No.: 9758

Filed: March 01, 2004

Title: METHOD FOR LATERAL
IMPLANTATION OF SPINOUS PROCESS
SPACER

PATENT APPLICATION


Art Unit: 3731

Examiner: Unknown

Customer No. 23910

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8

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 (Attorney Signature)

Suvashis Bhattacharya, Reg. No. 46,554

Signature Date: November 30, 2004

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.56

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

It is requested that the information identified in this statement be considered by the Examiner and made of record in the above-identified application. This statement is not intended to represent that a search has been made or that the information cited in the statement is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56. If this is a continuation, divisional or continuation-in-part application, it is understood that the Examiner will consider all information which was considered by the Office in a parent application. MPEP §609. Such information therefore is not listed herein unless it is desired that the information be printed on a patent issuing from the subject application.

Enclosed with this statement are the following:

- ☒ Form PTO-1449. The Examiner is requested to initial the form and return it to the undersigned in accordance with M.P.E.P. §609.
- ☒ The present application is being/was filed after June 30, 2003. In accordance with the pre-official gazette waiver of 37 CFR 1.98 (a)(2)(i) posted at: pac/dapp/opla/preognotice/idswouscopies.htm, copies of cited U.S. patents and publications are not enclosed. However, copies of cited foreign patent documents and non-patent literature are enclosed in accordance with 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2), as still required, except for those items designated by an asterisk (*), which were previously submitted by the applicant in a parent application, from which benefit under 35 U.S.C. §120 is

- 1 -

Attorney Docket No.: KLYC-01056USE
Sbhattacharya/KLYC/1056USE.IDS

104.001:123103
11/30/04-14:01

- ___ (1) It is accompanied by a STATEMENT as set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e).
-- OR --
___ (2) It is accompanied by the \$180 fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p).

___ **37 C.F.R. §1.97(d).** Although it may not qualify under subsection (b) or (c), this statement qualifies under 37 C.F.R. §1.97, subsection (d) because:

- (1) It is being filed on or before payment of the Issue Fee;
-- AND --
(2) It is accompanied by a STATEMENT as set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e);
-- AND --
(3) It is accompanied by the \$180 fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p).

✓ **Fee Authorization.** The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge underpayment of any additional fees or credit any overpayment associated with this communication to Deposit Account No. 06-1325. A duplicate copy of this authorization is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

FLIESLER MEYER LLP

Date: 11/30/04

By: 

Suvashis Bhattacharya
Reg. No. 46,554

Customer No. 23910
FLIESLER MEYER LLP
Four Embarcadero Center, Fourth Floor
San Francisco, California 94111-4156
Telephone (415) 362-3800

still required, except for those items designated by an asterisk (*), which were previously submitted by the applicant in a parent application, from which benefit under 35 U.S.C. §120 is claimed, with an *Information Disclosure Statement* submitted in the parent application which complies with the September 8, 2000 or subsequent revision of 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a-c), as allowed under 37 C.F.R. §1.98(d)(1).

— The present application was filed prior to June 30, 2003. A copy of each cited document as required by 37 C.F.R. §1.98 is enclosed, except for those items designated by an asterisk (*), which were previously submitted by the applicant in a parent application, from which benefit under 35 U.S.C. §120 is claimed, with an *Information Disclosure Statement* submitted in the parent application which complies with the September 8, 2000 or subsequent revision of 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a-c), as allowed under 37 C.F.R. §1.98(d)(1).

✓ If any of the cited/submitted documents is in a foreign language, a concise explanation of relevance is provided pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(3)(i). For foreign language documents cited in a search report by a foreign patent office, the requirement for a concise explanation of relevance is satisfied by the submission herewith of an English language version of the search report. MPEP §609A(3). If a written English-language translation of a non-English language document, or portion thereof, is within the possession, custody or control of, or is readily available to any individual designated in §1.56(c), a copy of the translation accompanies this statement, 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(3)(ii), and satisfies the requirement for a concise explanation of relevance, MPEP §609A(3).

— ***PTA Statement under 37 C.F.R. §1.704(d).*** Each item of information contained in the *Information Disclosure Statement* was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart application and this communication was not received by any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than thirty days prior to the filing of the *Information Disclosure Statement*.

This statement should be considered because:

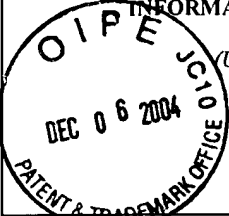
✓ **37 C.F.R. §1.97(b).** This statement qualifies under 37 C.F.R. §1.97, subsection (b) because:

- (1) It is being filed within three months of the filing date of an application other than a continued prosecution application under § 1.53(d);
-- OR --
- (2) It is being filed within 3 months of entry of a national stage;
-- OR --
- (3) It is being filed before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits,
-- OR --
- (4) It is being filed before the mailing date of the first Office Action after the filing of a Request for Continued Examination under 37 C.F.R. §1.114.

— **37 C.F.R. §1.97(c).** Although it may not qualify under subsection (b), this statement qualifies under 37 C.F.R. §1.97, subsection (c) because:

- (1) It is being filed before the mailing date of a FINAL Office Action, a Notice of Allowance, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the subject application, whichever occurs first.

-- AND (check at least one of the following) --

Form PTO-1449 (Substitute)	U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE	Attorney Docket Number KLYC-1056USE	Serial/Patent Number 10/790,651
 <p>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Use several sheets if necessary)</p>		Applicant/Patent Owner James F. Zucherman et al.	
		Filing/Issue Date March 01, 2004	Group Art Unit: 3731

U.S. PATENTS

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	F3	EP 140790 A2	10-1984	EPO			✓	
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	F5	DE 2821678 A1	4-1980	Germany			✓	
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	F7	FR 2623085	5-1989	France			✓	
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	F9	WO 90/00037	1-1990	France			✓	
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	F17	FR 2705227	11-1994	France			✓	
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	F27	WO 98/48717	11-1998	PCT			✓	
	F28	WO 98/55038	12-1998	PCT			✓	
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	F35	WO 00/13619	3-2000	PCT			✓	
	F36	WO 00/13620	3-2000	PCT			✓	
	F37	WO 00/04851	2-2000	PCT			✓	
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	F39	FR 2806614 A1	9-2001	France			✓	

	F40	FR 2806616 A1	9-2001	France			✓	
	F41	EP 1138268 A1	10-2001	EPO			✓	

*** English Abstract attached****OTHER DOCUMENTS (Include author (if any), title, publisher and place of publication, date and pertinent pages)**

O1	Minns, R.J., et al., <i>Preliminary Design and Experimental Studies of a Novel Soft Implant for Correcting Sagittal Plane Instability in the Lumbar Spine</i> , SPINE Volume 22, Number 16, pp.1819-1825, © 1997, Lippincott-Raven Publishers
O2	Waldemar Link, brochure entitled <i>Wirbelsäulen-Chirurgie: Instrumentarium Und Implantate Zur Wirbelsäulen-Chirurgie</i> (Spinal Surgery: Instrumentation and Implants for Spinal Surgery), Waldemar Link, Hamburg, Germany
O3	Haruo Tsuji, et al., <i>Ceramic Interspinous Block (CISB) Assisted Anterior Interbody Fusion</i> , Journal of Spinal Disorders, Vol.3, No.1, pp.77-86, ©1990 Raven Press, Ltd., New York
O4	Richard W. Porter, MD, FRCS, FRCSE, <i>Spinal Stenosis and Neurogenic Claudication</i> , SPINE Volume 21, November 17, pp.2046-2052, ©1996, Lippincott-Raven Publishers

ExaminerDate Considered

***EXAMINER:** Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

*1 = Copy not submitted because it was submitted in prior application SN __/____, filed _____, 20____, relied on under 35 USC §120.

*2 = Copy not submitted because it was submitted in prior application SN __/____, filed _____, 20____, relied on under 35 USC §120.

November 30, 2004